

## ABSTRACT

The invention provides methods and compositions relating to DNA Fragmentation Factor (DFF) polypeptides and related nucleic acids. More particularly, the present invention provides the sequence for the active subunit of DFF. The polypeptides may be produced recombinantly from host cells transformed from the disclosed DFF encoding nucleic acids or purified from human cells. The invention provides isolated DFF hybridization probes and primers capable of specifically hybridization with the disclosed DFF genes, DFF-specific binding agents such as specific antibodies, and methods of making and using the subject compositions.

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